

teaches the use of RF mixers in series. Therefore, the Applicants respectfully submit that the subject matter of the present claims is supported in the originally filed specification.

The Applicants further traverse the rejection of claims 1, 2 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over *Koelle et al* in view of *Landt et al* and further in view of *Cunningham*. The combination of references proposed in the Final Rejection would not have resulted in a reader or method in which the gain of the preamplifier is adjusted in response to the amplitude of the incoming data. The portion of *Koelle et al* referenced in the Final Rejection for that limitation actually teaches a circuit of logical gates whose end function is “to provide a comparison of the amplitudes of the received signal cycles and the received signal cycles delayed by one quarter of a time period of a signal cycle ...” (col. 6, lines 46-49). That is a far cry from adjusting *a gain of the preamplifier* in response to the amplitude. Therefore, the present claimed invention would not have been obvious over the combination of references proposed in the Final Rejection.

The Applicants still further traverse the rejection of claims 3-10 and 12-14 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over *Koelle et al* in view of *Landt et al* and further in view of *Cunningham* and *Mon*. As explained in the Amendment filed April 21, 2003, and not rebutted in the Final Rejection, *Mon* does not overcome the above-noted deficiencies of the other applied references. Therefore, the combination of the four references would not have resulted in the present claimed invention.

For the reasons set forth above, the Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance. Notice of such allowance is respectfully solicited.

If there remain any issues which can be overcome most efficiently through a telephone interview, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Please charge any deficiency in fees, or credit any overpayment thereof, to BLANK ROME LLP, Deposit Account No. 23-2185 (114944-00448). If a separate Petition for Extension of Time is not filed concurrently herewith or is inadequate to render the present submission timely, the Applicants respectfully petition under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) for an extension of time for as many months as are required to render the present submission timely. Any fee due is authorized above.

Respectfully submitted,

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